

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A SiAlON material that includes a two phase composite of an alpha prime SiAlON phase and a beta prime SiAlON phase. The alpha prime phase contains ytterbium. The alpha prime SiAlON phase being present in an amount between about 25 weight percent and about 85 weight percent of the two phase composite. The SiAlON material further includes an intergranular phase.